

**Related Activities to Try at Home** (page 1 of 2)

Dear Family,

The activities below are related to *Parts of a Whole, Parts of a Group*, the unit we are currently working on in math. Doing the activities together will help enrich your child's mathematical learning.

Flag Hunt Many nations' flags and nautical flags are divided into fractional parts, such as halves, thirds, or fourths. You and your child might like to hunt for flags in books and around your neighborhood. You can find pictures of flags in an encyclopedia, in an atlas, in books about flags (see next page), or on a Web site pertaining to flags. Find flags that are clearly divided into fractional parts and then ask questions such as these: "How much of this flag is blue?" "What color is $\frac{1}{2}$ of that flag?" Your child might like to draw the flags on graph paper, color them in, and then label the fractional parts.

Kitchen Fractions Examples of fractions come up frequently in the kitchen. Involve your child in conversations that involve simple fractions such as $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, and $\frac{1}{4}$. For example, there are often opportunities to measure $\frac{1}{3}$ cup of flour or to cut a sandwich in half.

Finding Fair Shares Your child can practice dividing a set into equal parts to share with a certain number of people. Ask questions such as these: "If you want to share 6 crackers with 3 people, each person would get $\frac{1}{3}$ of the crackers. How many crackers is that?" "How can we share 12 carrots evenly with each of the 4 people in our family so that each person gets $\frac{1}{4}$ of the carrots?"

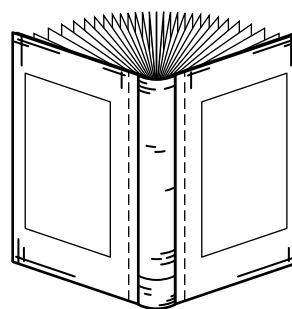
(continued)



Related Activities to Try at Home (page 2 of 2)

Halfway There When your family goes somewhere, ask your child to estimate how long it will take. Then figure out how long it takes to go halfway. Emphasize that one half means one of two equal parts. If the route is a familiar one, they can also estimate where they will be (what they will see) when they're halfway there. Then check the predictions while the journey is underway.

Math and Literature Here are some suggestions for children's books that contain ideas about fractions. Enjoy reading them together, and discuss the mathematical ideas you find.



Crampton, William G. *Flag*. Eyewitness Guides.

Emberley, Ed. *Ed Emberley's Picture Pie*:

A Circle Drawing Book.

Giganti, Paul Jr. *How Many Snails?*

Hutchins, Pat. *The Doorbell Rang*.

Leedy, Loreen. *Fraction Action*.

McMillan, Bruce. *Eating Fractions*.

Murphy, Stuart J. *Game Time!*

Murphy, Stuart J. *Give Me Half!*

Penner, Lucille Recht. *Clean-Sweep Campers*.

Math Matters Series.